

Claims

1. An apparatus for processing data records, the apparatus comprising:
means for receiving data records of a plurality of different types, each
5 type having a different predetermined format;
a plurality of type-specific function libraries, each library having functions
associated with each of the particular types of data record;
means for receiving instructions indicative of the particular type(s) of data
records to be received and indicative of which particular functions are to be
10 performed on the data records to be received;
means for reading the contents of the type-specific library(ies) associated
with the particular type of data records to be received;
means for processing received data records according to the particular
functions to be performed; and
15 an output for rendering the processed data records.
2. An apparatus for processing data records according to claim 1, further
comprising at least one database coupled to the output for storing the
processed data records.
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3. An apparatus for processing data records according to claim 1, further
comprising a set of common functions, wherein the particular functions to be
performed on the data records to be received can include one or more common
functions from the set of common functions.
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4. An apparatus for processing data records according to claim 3, wherein
the set of common functions includes one or more functions that provide system
management functions operative on the apparatus.
- 30 5. An apparatus for processing data records according to claim 3, further
comprising means for determining which functions from the set of common
functions are to be utilized in processing the received data records.
6. An apparatus for processing data records according to claim 1, further
35 comprising means for determining which functions from the contents of the type-
specific function library(ies) are to be utilized in processing the received data
records.

7. An apparatus for processing data records according to claim 1, wherein one of the types of data records is a Call Detail Record.
8. An apparatus for processing data records according to claim 1, wherein one of the types of data records is a Transaction Detail Record.
9. An apparatus for processing data records according to claim 1, wherein one of the types of data records is a Service Detail Record.
10. An apparatus for processing data records according to claim 1, wherein the at least one of the data records originates from a Signaling System No. 7 network.
11. An apparatus for processing data records according to claim 1, wherein the at least one of the data records originates from a GSM network.
12. An apparatus for processing data records according to claim 1, wherein the at least one of the data records originates from an Intelligent Network Application Part (INAP) network.
13. An apparatus for processing data records according to claim 1, wherein the at least one of the data records originates from an Internet Protocol (IP) network.
14. A method of processing data records from a telephone network, the method comprising the steps of:
- receiving instructions indicative of which particular type(s) of a plurality of different types of data records are to be processed;
 - receiving instructions indicative of which particular functions are to be performed on the data records to be processed;
 - reading the contents of at least one particular type-specific library of functions associated with the particular type(s) of data records to be processed;
 - receiving data records of the particular type(s);
 - processing the received data records according to the particular functions to be performed; and
 - rendering the processed data records,
- wherein the first four steps above can be carried out in any order.

15. A method of processing data records according to claim 14, further comprising the step of storing the processed data records in at least one database.
- 5 16. A method of processing data records according to claim 14, wherein the particular functions to be performed on the data records to be received include one or more common functions from a set of common functions.
- 10 17. A method of processing data records according to claim 16, wherein the set of common functions includes one or more functions that provide system management functions.
- 15 18. A method of processing data records according to claim 16, further comprising the step of determining which functions from the set of common functions are to be utilized in processing the received data records.
- 20 19. A method of processing data records according to claim 14, further comprising the step of determining which functions from the contents of the type-specific function library(ies) are to be utilized in processing the received data records.
20. A method of processing data records according to claim 14, wherein one of the types of data records is a Call Detail Record.
- 25 21. A method of processing data records according to claim 14, wherein one of the types of data records is a Transaction Detail Record.
22. A method of processing data records according to claim 14, wherein one of the types of data records is a Service Detail Record.
- 30 23. A method of processing data records according to claim 14, wherein at least one of the data records originates from a Signaling System No. 7 network.
24. A method of processing data records according to claim 14, wherein at least one of the data records originates from a GSM network.
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25. A method of processing data records according to claim 14, wherein at least one of the data records originates from an Intelligent Network Application Part (INAP) network.
- 5 26. A method of processing data records according to claim 14, wherein at least one of the data records originates from an Internet Protocol (IP) network.
27. A computer program element, comprising computer readable program code means for causing a processor to execute a procedure to implement the
10 method of claim 14.
28. A computer program element according to claim 27, embodied on a computer readable medium.
- 15 29. A computer readable medium, having a program stored thereon, where the program is to make a computer execute a procedure to implement the method of claim 14.
- 20 30. A programmed computer, comprising:
a memory having at least one region having a computer program element according to claim 27; and
a processor for executing the computer program element stored in the memory.